

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 03305 161655Z

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ACTION SS-25

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R 161447Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3608

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 3305

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (ALBERT, CARL)

SUBJ: CODEL ALBERT

REF: STATE 16224

1. AT THE RISK OF PUSHING ON OPEN DOORS, I WANT TO PASS ON THE FOLLOWING THOUGHTS IN CASE IN CODEL PLANNING QUESTION ARISES WHETHER SPEAKER SHOULD VISIT ROMANIA WITHIN ONLY A FORTNIGHT AFTER PRESIDENTIAL VISIT (ASSUMING LATTER TAKES PLACE). I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT SPEAKER SHOULD CONTINUE TO PLAN TO COME. THE ROMANIANS WILL BE MORE THAN PLEASED AT THIS LEVEL OF U.S. ATTENTION DURING A SINGLE MONTH AND I AM CERTAIN WILL NOT JUDGE THE CIRCUIT TO BE OVER-LOADED. MOREOVER, THEY WOULD FIND IT VERY DIFFICULT TO SWALLOW A CANCELLATION HERE BUT CONTINUATION OF THE VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION.

2. I AM PARTICULARLY HOPEFUL THE SPEAKER AND PARTY WILL NOT ABORT TRIP IN THE EVENT OF A PREEFDENTIAL VISIT FOR TWO ADDITIONAL REASONS:

A. GIVEN THE REALITIES OF CONGRESSIONAL SCHEDULES AND THE FORTHCOMING ELECTION, I AM CONCERNED THAT WE WILL NOT SOON HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ANOTHER PARLIAMENTARY EXCHANGE OF THIS MAGNITUDE IF WE LOSE THIS ONE.

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B. CODEL ALBERT OFFERS PARTICULARLY GOOD POTENTIAL FOR WORKING ON SOME USEFUL BILATERALLY INSTITUTIONALIZED TIES (EVEN TAKING ACCOUNT OF CONGRESS'S RELUCTANCE TO GET ENSNARED IN SUCH THINGS) AND FOR WIDENING DIALOGUE WITH MEMBERS OF ROMANIA'S TOP LEADERSHIP ECHELON JUST BELOW CEAUSESCU.

3. FINALLY, GP THE ASSUMPTION MFN WILL BE OUT OF THE WAY CODEL ALBERT'S VISIT OFFERS A FINE CHANCE TO CAPITALIZE BOTH HERE AND IN THE U.S. ON THIS CONGRESSIONAL INITIATIVE. BARNES

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